

N.J. STATE NORMAL SCHOOL SILVER, BURGET & CO., BROOKLYN PUBLIC SCHOOL NO 19:

NEW YORK. BOSTON, CHICAGO.

### POSITION AT THE DESK.

The important thing to be sought in the position at the desk is that the fore-arm should rest naturally on the desk. This is necessary. may be accomplished either by the Front Position as in Fig. 3, or by the Side Position as in Fig. 2. In crowded class-rooms the latter position is to be preferred, as taking less room at the desk. In each position sit upright, close to the desk, yet not leaning against it, both feet resting squarely on the floor, and the left hand firmly holding the paper.

In writing, the following MOVEMENTS are recognized :-THE WHOLE-ARM; consisting of the independent motion of the whole arm from the shoulder, and used for making large capitals, for bold, free strokes, and for writing where no rest for the hand or arm is possible.

THE FORE ARM, or MUSCU-LAR; consisting of the free back-and-forward motion of the flesh of the fore-arm, and used for carrying the hand across the paper, and in making both capitals and small letters.

THE FINGER; consisting simply of the motion of the first and second fingers and thumb, and used to aid in the formation of the small letters, but not be recommended for exclusive use.

The combination of the fore-arm and finger movements is the practical movement for the pupil. It follows naturally from teaching the fore-arm or muscular movement.



SIDE POSITION. Fig. 2.



FRONT POSITION. Fig. 3.

## ISUGGESTIONS TO TEACHER.

Correct movement, position, and pen-holding are better taught by example than rule. The simplest exercises should be constantly practised from the first. Correct methods should be observed not alone during the writing period, but should be carried into every branch of the school work. Carelessness in form or position in an arithmetic or language exercise will undo much of the good derived from the careful teaching of writing lesson. Require in all work neathess, correct form, correct penholding and correct position.

Insist that pupils write across the page, and not in columns down the page.

Be definite in your instruc-

tion. Indefinite instruction produces indefinite results.

The price of success in teaching writing is enthusiasm and work on the part of both teacher and pupil.

The pen should be held light-

ly in the position indicated in Fig. 1.

The fingers and thumb should be slightly bent, fie first finger on top of holder about one inch from point of en; the end of thumb on holder opposite first joint of second finger. The second finger should drop a little to right of holder, so that the holder will pass opposite root of finger-nail. Rest upon nails of third and fourth fingers, and separate these fingers from the others at first joint of second finger. Do not rest upon the wrist or side of the hand. The holder should point over the right shoulder, both points of the pen touching equally the paper.

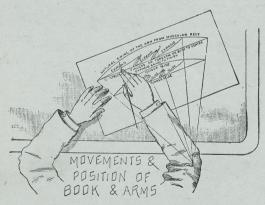


Fig. 4.

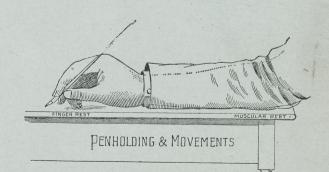


Fig. 1.

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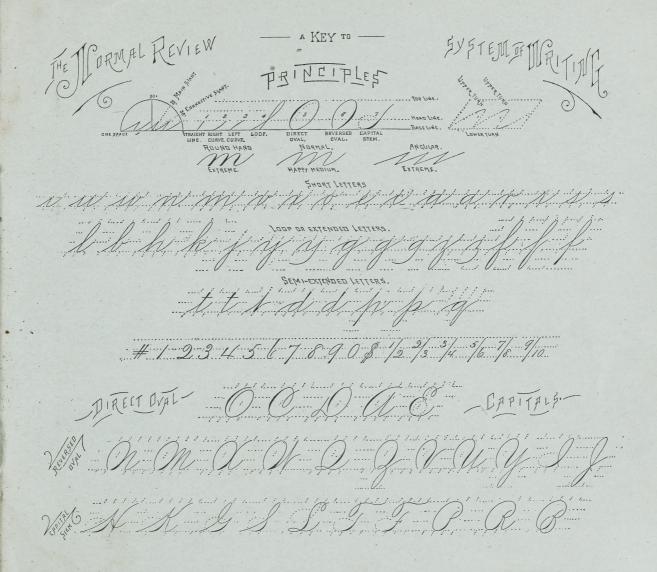
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Regular Course, 5 Numbers; Short Course, 4 Numbers; Tracing Course, 2 Numbers; Movement Course, 2 Numbers; Business Forms, 1 Number.

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